



in children's BEST INTERESTS

ADVANCING A FUNDAMENTAL
STANDARD FOR THE TREATMENT
OF IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

Claudio Grossman Hall | Yuma Building | Washington College of Law

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- 9:00am** Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 9:30am** Opening Remarks
Jayesh Rathod, Associate Dean, American University
Washington College of Law
Sheila Starkey Hahn, Chair, AILA Pro Bono Committee
- 9:45am** In Search of Protection: International Legal Frameworks and Trends in the Displacement of Refugee and Migrant Children to the U.S.
Devon Cone, Refugees International; *Alice Farmer*, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); *Amelia Frank-Vitale*, University of Michigan; *Lauren Heidbrink*, California State University, Long Beach
Moderator: *Eric Hershberg*, Center for Latin American & Latino Studies, American University
- 11:00am** Opening Plenary | State Weakness and Complicity: Economic and Political Barriers to Children's Well-Being in Central America
Ricardo Barrientos, Central American Institute of Fiscal Studies (ICEFI)
- 11:20am** Morning Break
- 11:35am** Flores and Beyond: Applying Basic Child Welfare Principles in Immigration Detention
Holly Cooper, UC Davis School of Law; *Mark Greenberg*, Migration Policy Institute; *Katharina Obser*, Women's Refugee Commission; *Kristen Torres*, First Focus on Children
Moderator: *Anita Sinha*, International Human Rights Law Clinic, American University Washington College of Law
- 12:50pm** Lunch & Keynote Address
U.S. Representative *Pramila Jayapal* (WA-07)
Introduction: *Alan Kraut*, University Professor & Professor of History, American University
- 2:00pm** An Assault on Asylum: Evolving Standards, Migrant Protection Protocols, and Safe Third Countries
Dree Collopy, Benach Collopy LLP; *Linda Everts*, International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP); *Stephen Manning*, Innovation Law Lab; *Jayesh Rathod*, Immigrant Justice Clinic, American University Washington College of Law
Moderator: *Dennis Stinchcomb*, Center for Latin American & Latino Studies, American University
- 3:15pm** Afternoon Break

- 3:30pm** Addressing Procedural Deficits in the Adjudication of Child Protection Claims in Immigration Court and Before USCIS
Lenni Benson, New York Law School; *Tianna Gibbs*, UDC David A. Clarke School of Law; *Jennifer Nagda*, Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights; *Michele Statz*, University of Minnesota Medical School
Moderator: *Cori Alonso-Yoder*, Immigrant Justice Clinic, American University Washington College of Law
- 4:45pm** Closing Remarks

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 9:00am** Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 9:30am** Plenary | The Plight of Migrant Mothers: Restoring Protections for Victims of Gender-Based Violence
Karen Musalo, Center for Gender & Refugee Studies (CGRS), UC Hastings College of the Law
- 9:55am** Family Separation and the Challenges of Reunification: Zero Tolerance, Its Aftermath, and Ongoing Separation Practices
Ashley Feasley, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB); *Michelle Mendez*, Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC); *Michael Mintz*, Children's National Hospital; *Christie Turner-Herbas*, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
Moderator: *Lindsay Harris*, UDC David A. Clarke School of Law
- 11:10am** Morning Break
- 11:25am** Pro Bono Impact: Practitioner Perspectives
Tim Huether, Jones Day; *Ruchi Jain*, Kirkland & Ellis LLP; *Andrea Mangones*, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND); *Laura Nally*, CAIR Coalition; *Rachel Kaplan Reicher*, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Moderator: *Sheila Starkey Hahn*, Law Offices of Sheila Starkey Hahn, PC
- 12:30pm** Lunch Plenary
Overcoming Barriers: Reflections from an Asylee, Attorney, and Advocate
Liana Montecinos, Benach Collopy LLP
- 1:15pm** Children's Best Interests in the Context of Family and Community Integration
Angela Gonzalez, Youth Advocate; *Andrew Lorenzen-Strait*, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA); *Susana Martinez*, Latin American Youth Center (LAYC); *Cristina Novoa*, Center for American Progress; *Alan Shapiro*, Terra Firma
Moderator: *Ernesto Castañeda*, Department of Sociology, American University
- 2:30pm** Closing Remarks

